

SSB 6129 - H AMD TO ED COMM AMD (H-4326.3/14) **873**

By Representative Bergquist

ADOPTED 03/06/2014

1 On page 1, beginning on line 3 of the striking amendment, after
2 "**Sec. 1.**" strike all material through "assistance." on page 2, line 5
3 and insert "The legislature acknowledges that paraeducators have
4 become a significant resource to students who need additional
5 education assistance. The legislature further recognizes that there
6 is significant variability in paraeducator standards, training, and
7 opportunity for professional development. A carefully constructed
8 paraeducator development program would place the highest qualified
9 paraeducators working with the highest need students. Such a program
10 when combined with a career ladder could offer paraeducators real
11 opportunities for upward mobility. Since paraeducators more closely
12 reflect the cultural diversity of the student population, a
13 development program and career ladder would be likely to encourage
14 more paraeducators to become teachers. Training teachers how to work
15 with a paraeducator in their classrooms could increase paraeducators'
16 ability to teach students who need additional assistance."

EFFECT: Shortens the legislative intent section for the bill by removing data about hours of instruction provided by paraeducators; removing findings about paraeducator knowledge, skills, and commitment to education; and removing findings about paraeducator training being reduced due to budget cuts.

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